

Vehicle Exhaust Removal Systems

By Deputy Chief Mike Ullman

Exposure to diesel fuel emissions and carbon monoxide from fire apparatus in a fire station represents a significant hazard to fire-fighters. In fact, continued exposure to diesel fuel emissions has been linked to cancer and other serious health disorders.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1500, which addresses occupational safety and health for the fire service, requires that "The fire department shall prevent exposure to fire fighters...to (diesel) exhaust emissions." This standard also identifies the best approach to this is to install exhaust removal equipment that captures exhaust emissions at the source (from the tailpipe).

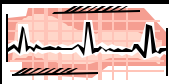
Given the expense to install a vehicle exhaust removal system in a fire station, it was imperative that the Goodyear Fire Department carefully examine the differences in these systems. Based on this research, we decided that the source capture design would be essential criteria for selection of our future vehicle exhaust removal systems.

As we were in the process to develop specifications and solicit bids, we found that the City of Chandler Fire Department had recently conducted a legal bid process for the purchase and installation of source capture vehicle exhaust removal systems in their fire stations. Their bid was awarded to Air Purification Systems, vendors for PlymoVent systems. After thorough review of the Chandler specifications, and after soliciting and receiving written estimates from two other vendors for comparable systems, we decided to piggy-back on the Chandler bid process in order to get these same systems and prices.

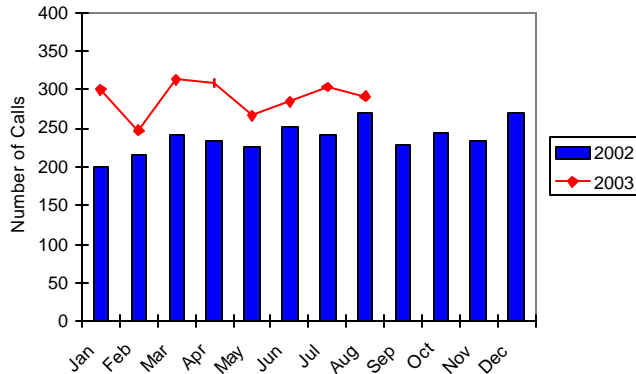


We are happy to report that as of May, all three of our fire stations have been equipped with the PlymoVent exhaust removal systems, with system duct drops to 6 of the 10 total bays. In order to finish this project, we still need to add three more duct drops at Station 1 and one more at Station 3. This will allow all station vehicles and apparatus to be connected to the system and will not allow any exhaust emissions into the lungs of our firefighters while they are in the fire stations.

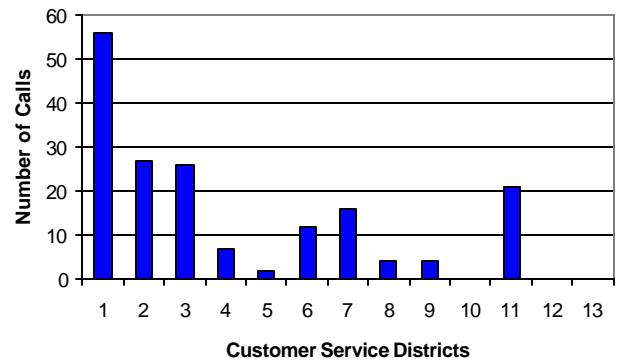
It can also be safe to say that our firefighters can now 'breathe a little easier' by using these exhaust removal systems properly and by knowing that their health and well-being is a top priority.



Calls for Service by Month



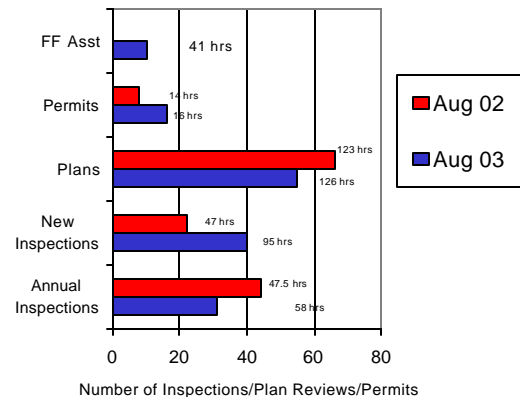
Calls for Service by Customer Service District



Average Response Time by Customer Service District



Fire Prevention Activity



Mark Gaillard Receives Chief Fire Officer (CFO) Designation

At the Fire Rescue International conference in Dallas, Texas, the Commission on Chief Fire Officer Designation conferred the CFO Designation on 119 fire service professionals. Among them was our very own Fire Chief Mark Gaillard. He is one of only six individuals in the state of Arizona to have achieved this designation.

The CFO designation is a voluntary program designed to recognize individuals who can show their excellence in seven measured components including: Experience, Education, Professional Development, Professional Contributions, Association Membership, Community Involvement, and Technical Competencies. Individuals receiving this designation have clearly demonstrated their personal and professional aptitude in these areas. The CFO Designation is designed to recognize individual excellence within the fire service.

Congratulations to Chief Gaillard for this very distinguished accomplishment!